

CLAIMS

1. A fragrance disperser comprising first and second sources of fragrance (25, 26) first and second flowpaths (21, 23), each associated with a respective source of fragrance (25, 26), a fan (17) for providing a flow of air along the first and second flowpaths (21, 23) to release the associated fragrances and a flow controller (38, 52) movable by an actuator (34) between a first position in which air flows along the first flowpath (21) to allow release of the first fragrance and a second position in which air flows along the second flowpath (23) to allow release of the second fragrance.
2. A disperser according to claim 1 wherein the first and second flowpaths comprise respective first and second passages (21, 23), the flow controller (38, 52) opening the first passage (21) and closing the second passage (23) in the first position thereof and closing the first passage (21) and opening the second passage (23) in the second position thereof.
3. A disperser according to claim 2 wherein the first passage (21) has an inlet end adjacent the fan (17) and the second passage (23) has an inlet end adjacent the fan (17), the flow controller (38) opening and closing said inlet ends.
4. A disperser according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the fan (17) is rotatable in respective opposite first and second senses, rotation of the fan (17) in the first sense passing air through the first flowpath (21) with the flow controller (38, 52)

in the first position and rotation of the fan (17) in the second sense with the flow controller (38, 52) in the second position passing air through the second flowpath (23).

5. A disperser according to claim 4 and comprising control means (42) for controlling the actuator (34) and the fan (17) so that the flow controller (38, 52) is in first position when the fan (17) rotates in said first sense and the flow controller (38, 52) is in said second position when the fan (17) rotates in said second sense.

6. A disperser according to claim 4 or claim 5 wherein the fan (17) is within a housing (10), the housing (10) including a wall (20) extending around the fan (17) and defining a path. For air leading to the first flowpath (21) and the second flowpath (23), the flow controller (38, 52) including a flow directing surface (39, 55) which, in both the first position and the second position, provides a downstream extension of said housing wall (20).

7. A dispenser according to claim 6 wherein the fan (17) has an outer periphery, the housing wall (20) being arcuate about an axis co-axial with the axis of rotation of the fan (17), the flow directing surface (39, 55) being arcuate and forming, with the outer periphery of the fan, a passage of increasing cross-section in a downstream direction.

8. A dispenser according to claim 6 or claim 7 wherein the flow controller

(38, 52) includes a first extension surface (40) which forms a continuation of the first flowpath (21) when the flow controller (38, 52) is in said first position and a second extension surface (42) which forms a continuation of the second flowpath (23) when the flow controller (38, 52) is in said second position.

9. A disperser according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein said actuator (34) is connected to the flow controller (38, 52) by a mechanism (36, 45, 60, 61, 70) that translates operation of actuator (34) into movement of the flow controller (38, 52) between said first and second positions.

10. A disperser according to claim 9 wherein the mechanism includes at least one arm (36, 45, 60, 61, 70) connected between the flow controller (38, 52) and the actuator (34).

11. A disperser according to claim 10 wherein the actuator (34) includes a rod (35) movable between first and second positions to cause the at least one arm (36, 45, 60, 61, 70) to move the flow controller (38, 52) between the first and second positions.

12. A disperser according to claim 11 wherein the at least one arm (36, 45, 60, 61, 70) is pivotally mounted, movement of the rod (35) rotating the at least one arm (36, 45, 60, 61, 70) around the pivot (37, 46, 64, 65, 49).

13. A disperser according to claim 12 wherein the at least one arm (36, 70) has a first end and a second end, the first end being fixed to the flow controller (38, 52) and the second end being pivotally mounted, the rod (35) acting on the arm (36, 70) intermediate the ends thereof.

14. A disperser according to claim 13 wherein the arm (70) extends away from the fan (17) in a generally radial direction.

15. A disperser according to claim 13 wherein the arm (36) is pivoted to one side of the fan (17) and the flow controller (38) is on a diametrically opposite side of the fan (17), the arm (36) extending across the fan (17).

16. A disperser according to claim 12 wherein the at least one arm (45, 60) has a first and a second end and is pivotally mounted intermediate the first and second ends, the first end being pivotally connected to the flow controller (52) and the second end being pivotally connected to the rod (35).

17. A disperser according to claim 16 wherein the at least one arm (45, 60) extends away from the fan (17) in a generally radial direction.

18. A disperser according to claim 11 wherein said at least one arm (60) is one of two parallel arms (60, 61), each arm (60, 61) having a first end and a second end, the first

ends of the arms (60, 61) being pivotally connected to the flow controller (52) and the second ends of the arms (60, 61) being connected to spaced fixed pivots (64, 65), the rod (35) acting on one of said arms (60).

19. A disperser according to any one of claims 1 to 18 wherein the fan (17) is within a housing (10), the housing including a chamber housing the fan and first and second passages (21, 23) leading from the housing (10) and forming respectively the first and second flowpaths.

20. A disperser according to claim 19 wherein the chamber includes an arcuate wall (20) partially surrounding the fan (17), the arcuate wall having a first end and a second end, the first passage (21) leading from the first end of the arcuate wall (20) and the second passage (23) leading from the second end of the arcuate wall (20).

21. A disperser according to claim 19 or claim 20 wherein the first and second passages (21, 23) are side-by-side in the housing (10).

22. A disperser according to any one of claims 1 to 21 wherein the actuator (34) is electronically operated.

23. A dispenser according to any one of claims 1 to 22 wherein the flow controller (38, 52) is movable by the actuator (34) to at least one position between said

first and second positions to provide proportionate increase of both fragrances.

24. A dispenser according to any one of claims 1 to 23 wherein the flow controller (38, 52) in the first position prevents release of the second fragrance and in the second position prevents release of the first fragrance.